

Brainstorming

Purpose

A technique for generating and collecting ideas from a group in a non-judgemental environment.

Process

- Divide the participants into small groups.
- Appoint a recorder for each small group.
- Ask the group to agree on the objective of the brainstorm. The recorder then writes the objective clearly on a large sheet of paper.
- Allow some thinking time for participants to jot down their ideas.
- Each participant is given the opportunity to respond to the stated objective by giving only one idea at a time.
- All ideas are recorded as presented without judgements, comments or discussion. The recorder may ask for clarification on how to record the idea.
- Participants may pass in a given round.
- Keep the process going until participants have exhausted all ideas or time has run out.



Product

Brainstorming captures multiple individual responses to an objective. Further techniques of prioritisation and action follow the brainstorm.

PrimaryConnections examples

- Identify the benefits of cooperative learning.
- In what ways might science resources be organised?
- How does the teacher behave during the *Engage* phase of a curriculum unit?

Reference

Osborn, Alex F. (1953). *Applied Imagination: Principles and Procedures of Creative Problem Solving*. USA: Scribner.